



Helping People Find *The Way* Back to God

Mark Stuenzi
September 5-6, 2009

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

In Christ, we are given a
new _____

In Christ, we are given a
new _____

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¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The Way

We describe our church's mission as "helping people find *The Way* back to God." This phrase comes directly from the pages of Scripture:

Just before his death, Jesus spoke to his disciples about his identity and his mission. He said to them, "I am *the way* and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

In the first century, Christians were commonly known as followers of *The Way*. This phrase is used several times in the New Testament's *Acts of the Apostles*:

[Saul] found any there who belonged to The Way, whether men or women, [so that] he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. (ACTS 9:2)

But some of them became obstinate; they refused to believe and publicly maligned The Way. (Acts 19:9)

I admit that I worship the God of our fathers as a follower of The Way, which they call a sect. (ACTS 24:14 – PAUL SPEAKING)

Then Felix, who was well acquainted with The Way, adjourned the proceedings. (ACTS 24:22)

For those first believers, Christianity wasn't about a religion; it was about following *The Way* of Jesus. It was being on a new path that would lead them to a new destination.

Here at Parker Hill Community Church, we are committed to developing people who live as authentic followers of Christ; people who have embraced Him as *The Way* to life that is eternal and abundant.